

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 27 and 28 are amended. Claims 4, 13, 21 and 32 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-20, 22-31 and 33-35 remain in the application for consideration. In view of the following
5 remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be allowed and forwarded on to issuance.

The Rejections

Claims 1 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious
10 over U.S. Patent No. 6,163,383 to Ota.

Claims 2-11 and 13-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Ota in view of Hines (2002/0031225 A1).

The Claims

15 **Claim 1** has been amended and, as amended recites a printing apparatus comprising [added language appears in bold italics]:

- a printer configured to print upon print media; and
- 20 • a printer monitor associated with the printer and configured to monitor one or more variables or parameters associated with the security of the printer, *wherein at least one of said variables or parameters is associated with I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer.*

25 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office argues that its subject matter is obvious in view of Ota. Preliminarily, Applicant would like to point out that the Office expressed the rejection of this claim using language that does not

specifically appear in this claim (e.g., "...Ota does not teach that the server is a printer monitor."). Applicant assumes that this was an oversight on the Office's part.

Applicant has amended this claim to include subject matter that formerly
5 appeared in claim 4 which was rejected over the combination of Ota and Hines. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification, starting on pages 17-19.

In making out the rejection of claim 4, the Office appears to cite to a section of Ota (column 4, lines 39-47). Applicant has reviewed Ota and Hines and can
10 find no disclosure or teaching of this subject matter. Specifically, this claim now recites that at least one of the variables or parameters is associated with *I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer*. The excerpt of Ota cited by the Office pertains to user verification, and not to the subject matter of this now-amended claim. In addition, Hines is not seen to add anything of
15 significance.

Accordingly, because neither reference discloses or teaches the subject matter of this claim, this claim is allowable.

Claims 2, 3 and 5-11 are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim and for their own recited features which are neither disclosed nor suggested
20 by the references of record either singly or in combination with one another.

Claim 12 has been amended and, as amended recites a printing apparatus comprising [added language appears in bold italics]:

- a printer; and
- 25 • a printer monitor associated with printer and configured to monitor one or more usage profiles associated with the printer, the one or

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more usage profiles being independent of profiles associated with print job management or printer consumables management, *wherein at least one usage profile is defined in terms of one or more variables or parameters associated with I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer.*

In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office argues that its subject matter is obvious in view of Ota. Preliminarily, Applicant would like to point out that the Office expressed the rejection of this claim using language that does not specifically appear in this claim (e.g., "...Ota does not teach that the server is a printer monitor."). Applicant assumes that this was an oversight on the Office's part.

Applicant has amended this claim to include subject matter that formerly appeared in claim 13 which was rejected over the combination of Ota and Hines. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification, starting on pages 17-19.

Applicant has reviewed Ota and Hines and can find no disclosure or teaching of this subject matter. Specifically, this claim now recites that *at least one usage profile is defined in terms of one or more variables or parameters associated with I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer.* Neither Ota nor Hines appear to disclose or suggest anything of this nature.

Accordingly, because neither reference discloses or teaches the subject matter of this claim, this claim is allowable.

Claims 14-18 are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim and for their own recited features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record either singly or in combination with one another.

Claim 19 has been amended and, as amended, recites a printer management method comprising [added language appears in bold italics]:

- 5 • monitoring one or more variables or parameters associated with the security of a printer, *wherein at least one of the one or more variables or parameters is associated with I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer*; and
- generating a notification if it appears likely that there has been a security breach.

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Applicant has amended this claim to include subject matter that formerly appeared in claim 21 which was rejected over the combination of Ota and Hines. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification, starting on pages 17-19.

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Applicant has reviewed Ota and Hines and can find no disclosure or teaching of this subject matter. Specifically, this claim now recites that *at least one of the one or more variables or parameters is associated with I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer*. Neither Ota nor Hines appear to disclose or suggest anything of this nature.

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Accordingly, because neither reference discloses or teaches the subject matter of this claim, this claim is allowable.

Claims 20 and 22-26 are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim and for their own recited features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record either singly or in combination with one another.

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Claim 27 has been amended and, as amended recites A printer management method comprising [added language appears in bold italics]:

- providing multiple printers in an organization;
- linking the printers together via an organization network;
- monitoring activities of the multiple printers;
- 5 • determining whether one or more printer activities meets one or more usage profiles associated with each of the printers, the usage profiles being associated with the security of each associated printer, *wherein at least one usage profile is defined in terms of one or more variables or parameters associated with I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer;* and
- 10 • taking a programmed action in the event that one or more printer activities meets one or more usage profiles for an associated printer.

In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office argues that its subject matter is obvious in view of Ota and Hines.

- 15 Applicant has amended this claim to include subject matter this is neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification, starting on pages 17-19.

- Applicant has reviewed Ota and Hines and can find no disclosure or teaching of this subject matter. Specifically, this claim now recites that *at least*
- 20 *one usage profile is defined in terms of one or more variables or parameters associated with I/O activities of data that is to be or has been printed on the printer.* Neither Ota nor Hines appear to disclose or suggest anything of this nature.

- Accordingly, because neither reference discloses or teaches the subject
- 25 matter of this claim, this claim is allowable.

Claim 28 has been amended and, as amended, recites a printing system comprising [added language appears in bold italics]:

- multiple printers; and

- 5 • one or more printer monitors associated with one or more of the multiple printers, the one or more printer monitors being configured to monitor one or more variables or parameters associated with the security of the one or more printers, *wherein at least one of the one or more variables or parameters is associated with I/O activities associated with data that has been or is to be printed on an associated printer.*

10 In making out the rejection of this claim, the Office argues that its subject matter is obvious in view of Ota and Hines.

Applicant has amended this claim to include subject matter this is neither disclosed nor suggested in the references of record. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification, starting on pages 17-19.

15 Applicant has reviewed Ota and Hines and can find no disclosure or teaching of this subject matter. Specifically, this claim now recites that *at least one of the one or more variables or parameters is associated with I/O activities associated with data that has been or is to be printed on an associated printer.* Neither Ota nor Hines appear to disclose or suggest anything of this nature.

20 Accordingly, because neither reference discloses or teaches the subject matter of this claim, this claim is allowable.

Claims 29-31 and 33-35 are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim and for their own recited features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record either singly or in combination with one another.

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Conclusion

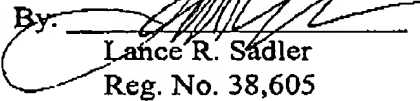
Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that a Notice of

Allowability be issued forthwith. If the next anticipated action is to be anything other than a Notice of Allowability, Applicant respectfully requests a telephone call for the purpose of scheduling an interview.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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